Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Leona Eleanor Dumke was born on October 29, 1919, to Otto and Emma Dumke at the family farm near Altamont, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Leona married Melvin Engen on May 12, 1938 at Brandt, South Dakota, and to this union three children were born, Mick, Gordy, and Ruth Ann, who in turn blessed them with seven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and three step-great-grandchildren; and,

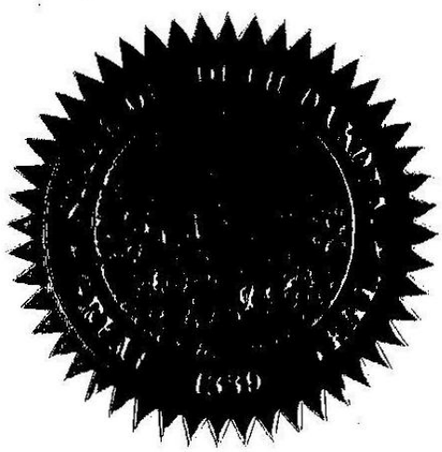
Whereas, Leona worked beside Melvin for 38 years in the family owned businesses, Engen's Hatchery in Brandt, South Dakota, and Engen's Skogmo store in Fairfax, Minnesota; and,

Whereas, Leona will observe her 90th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather on October 17, 2009, to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 29, 2009, as

LEONA ENGEN DAY

in South Dakota, and I join Leona's friends and family in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State